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MODEL SYLLABUS

REGIONAL SURVEY COURSE

1. Scope. The Regional Survey course examines all principal facets of a world region, considered as a whole and in the light of American intelligence interests.

2. Objectives. The purpose of the course is strictly professional--to develop a sensitivity to what is significant in the region as a whole, from an intelligence viewpoint. The employee is alerted to those aspects of its physical make-up, traditions, attitudes, and current political, economic and military conditions which affect his work. He is trained to appraise the interplay of regional conditions and developments, and to observe their relation to and effect upon overall American strategy and intelligence objectives in the area. As a result, he becomes more skilled in interpreting developments, anticipating responses, and promoting CIA operational objectives of regional or national scope. In particular, the specialist on a single country or portion of the region is taught to place his problems in the proper perspective of overall regional policies and problems. He can also be expected to become better prepared for new job responsibilities, whether concerning other countries in the area or the region as a whole.

3. Users. The course is intended for intelligence officers whose assignments are concerned with the whole region to be studied, or any part thereof. The course is slanted toward the professional needs of personnel engaged in intelligence production, operations, or services. In general,

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applicants must possess a substantial level of basic knowledge of an important part of the region. Admission of those without such area competency, but with a pertinent functional specialty (e.g., economics, geography, political science, international relations), will be considered on an individual basis.

4. Content. The course consists of three main phases. The first includes: (a) a survey of why the region is important to the United States, with identification of the problems which stem from regional associations; (b) a broad consideration of American policy toward the region in the framework of American global strategy; and (c) specific consideration of national intelligence objectives and--as security factors permit--of operational objectives involving the region as a whole. The second and most extensive phase of the course is a systematic study of the region itself in considerable detail. The principal topics are: (a) a survey of the peoples, their historical relationships, their cultures, and their institutions, with the focus on factors promoting cohesion or division; (b) geography (terrain, waterways, etc.), climate and natural resources, as cohesive or divisive factors; (c) strengths and weaknesses, in the regional context, of the national economies, particularly with respect to manufacturing, agriculture, transportation, trade, and national accounts; (d) comparative political, economic, and social trends within the countries of the area and the interplay among them; (e) cooperative efforts and sources of friction among the countries; and (f) attitudes and policies of the major countries and of regional organizations toward regional problems and the outside world, with

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emphasis on the region's role in the cold war. The third phase of the course relates the second directly to the first by synthesizing and evaluating those data which bear importantly on efforts to implement American policies and intelligence objectives in the area. As far as possible this phase will be taken up intermittently as appropriate following each important segment of the second phase. The course concludes with a balanced survey of the intelligence situation concerning the region--that is, the current status of, and the outlook for, progress toward American goals in the region.

5. Schedules. Classes will meet four times a week, in two-hour sessions, for ten weeks. Outside study will normally require about sixteen hours a week. The initial Regional Survey courses--on the Middle East and Southeast Asia, respectively--are expected to be offered by late fall of 1955, with the course on Western Europe to follow in the spring of 1956. As soon as staffing is completed, the course on each world region will normally be given at least once each year.

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